

Appendix A

Background Information on Surface Waters

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Appendix A. New Mexico Geographic Information Summary

**Data is from 2000 Census of Population and Housing,
United States Environmental Protection Agency and
the New Mexico Environment Department.**

Summary Information

State Population	1,819,046
State surface area (sq. mi.)	121,598
Number of water quality basins	11
Total number of stream miles	108,649
- Number of perennial stream miles	6,590
- Number of intermittent stream miles	99,332
- Number of ditch/canal miles	2727
- Number of border stream miles	0
Number of lakes/reservoirs	5,973
Acres of lakes/reservoirs	135,410
Acres of freshwater wetlands	Unknown

Summary of Classified Uses

In New Mexico, perennial streams, publicly owned reservoirs and permanent lakes are classified for use by the Water Quality Control Commission. Ephemeral waters and most intermittent streams are not classified for use. Surface waters have been classified for uses consistent with the goals of the Federal Clean Water Act as follows:

Type of Water	Total Waters Classified	Waters Classified For Uses Consistent with Federal Clean Water Act Goals (Fishable/swimmable ^a)	Total Waters Unclassified
Perennial Streams (miles)	6,590	6,590	73
Lakes (acres)	135,410	135,410	2,437
Wetlands	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

^a The fishable goal of the Federal Clean Water Act is defined as protection and propagation of fish, shellfish and wildlife. The swimmable goal is defined as providing for recreation in and on the water.

B l a n k P a g e